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**NEW BEDFORD SUPERFUND SITE
EPA PROGRESS AND PLANS
MARCH 1984**

Fast-Track Feasibility Study

Progress in February:

- A meeting was held with the Interagency Task Force. The results of the initial screening of possible ways to deal with the PCB "hot spots" in the Acushnet River north of the Coggeshall Street Bridge were discussed in this meeting. Work is now proceeding on a more detailed review of the methods still being considered. The feasibility of each method is being considered as to its engineering and scientific merits, its cost, and its effectiveness.
- Possible sites for disposing of contaminated sediments dredged from the river and the harbor were studied and initially ranked. A more detailed ranking of the acceptable sites is in progress and will be used for the Fast-Track Feasibility Study.

Plans for March:

- The detailed screening of possible methods to deal with PCB "hot spots" will be completed. Once completed, it will undergo an interagency review. The draft report will be made available for public comment this spring.
- If access to the potential disposal sites can be obtained, a field study of all highly-ranked sites will be conducted. This field study will provide information which will be used in the more detailed ranking of sites.

Overall Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)

Progress to Date:

- The Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study is underway. The Remedial Investigation will define the extent of contamination at the site and the Feasibility Study will evaluate alternatives for long-term cleanup. This will be more comprehensive than the Fast-Track Feasibility Study, which will focus only on the PCB "hot spots".
- A Health and Safety Plan and a Quality Assurance/Quality Control Plan for the RI/FS were completed and are under review.
- The New England Research Laboratory of Battelle Memorial Institute was selected to perform the PCB Transport Modeling Task and the Sampling and Analysis Task. The purpose of these tasks is to provide technical information on the distribution, movement, and fate of PCBs and heavy metals in the environment and to predict the effectiveness of cleanup alternatives. Battelle is currently preparing a detailed work plan for these tasks.
- The first part of a study to investigate groundwater resources and groundwater use in the region has been completed.
- Work was started on the Community Awareness programs.

Plans for March:

- The work plan for the Modeling and Sampling Task will be near completion. Work on these tasks should begin in April.
- Visits will be made to various agencies and other groups to gather additional information on the use, source, and quality of groundwater.

- A subcontractor will be selected to perform an investigation of Sullivan's Ledge.
- Work will continue on the tasks currently in progress.